MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): The idea of Government in introducing the Trivandrum City Municipal Bill is to promote the betterment of the City of Trivandrum. Well, Sir, we, who have been watching the municipal administration of the various municipalities, know for certain that mismanagement of municipal affairs is the order of the day. In fact municipal squabbles have almost become a by-word with us. And such a Bill is highly necessary for the requirements of a growing and a rapidly growing city like Trivandrum. Well, Sir, some of the provisions contained in the draft Bill are no doubt very desirable. But the most important provision that I find in the draft Bill is the provision for the appointment of a Commissioner with better and enhanced powers. There is also the provision for the appointment of standing committees, for finance, taxation, works etc. This, I hope, will, to some extent, remove the existing evils in the municipal administration, namely, the see-saw fight that is going on between two sections of the Council at all times. It is seen from the Statement of Objects and Reasons that this Bill is framed on the model of the City Municipal Act of Madras. Well, Sir, I should like to see a Mayor for our City of Trivandrum and also some aldermen for whom provision has been made in the Madras Council. With these words I support the object underlying the principle of the Bill.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The question is that the principle of the Trivandrum City Municipal Bill be accepted.

The House agreed and the principle of the Bill was accepted.

The Secretary then read the title of the Bill.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, I beg to move that the Bill be referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses to submit a report in six months. The Bill is a very long one and requires very detailed examination and when we remember the fact that it has to go through both the Houses, it appears to me that it would be better if a committee of both the Houses examine the provisions thereof. I move that the Bill be referred to a Joint Committee of the Assembly and the Council.

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): I second it

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Does the House agree?

The House agreed to refer the Bill to a Joint Committee to report within six months.

THE TRAVANCORE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES BILL.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, I rise to introduce a Bill to make provision for the better management of the municipal affairs in Travancore except the City of Trivandrum. The Bill has been published in the Gazette, with a Statement of Objects and Reasons.

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MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): I second it.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I had already stated that there will be one Bill for the Trivandrum City alone and another for all the other Municipalities of the State. Accordingly the Bill has been framed. The Bill is a long one and it is not necessary to explain all the provisions or the principles that are involved in these provisions. The details have been explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. I have no doubt that the Honourable members have read it. I trust that the principle of the Bill will be accepted by the House.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): I support the principle of the District Municipalities Bill. Meanwhile, I cannot but observe that I find there are certain provisions which are abusive to the good conduct of the Council. For example, Sir, I find that the emergency powers of the Division Peishkar for which provision is made in the Bill will no doubt lead to interference with the Council very often to the detriment and good working of the Council. Then, Sir, the power to remove the elected non-official President vested in the Government and certain others dedicated to the District Magistrate seem to be retrograde instead of developments on the line of local self-governing institutions. Sir, there is ample provision for the election of a President who owes his position to the confidence reposed in him by brother councillors who are rightly given the power to remove him by a vote of no confidence. I refer to section 39, page 20, of the Bill where there is provision made by which a person who proves unworthy of the confidence of the Council shall be removed. Where then, Sir, is the necessity for taking arbitrary action by Government? There are many such provisions which ought to be considered very carefully by the Select Committee and I do not propose to take much of the time of the House by dealing with them one by one now. With these few words, I support the principle of the Travancore District Municipalities Bill.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): സർ, ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ലാമെമ്പർ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഡിസ്ട്രിക്റ്റ്മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റീസ് ബില്ലിനെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നതിനു എനിക്കു അധികം സന്തോഷമുണ്ട്. വളരെ നാളുകൾക്കുമുമ്പുതന്നെ ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു ബിൽ പാസ്സാക്കേണ്ടതായിരുന്നു. സ്വയംഭരണത്തിനു പ്രജകളെ പരിശീലിപ്പിക്കുക എന്നതാണല്ലോ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുടെ പ്രധാനഉദ്ദേശം. അധികൃതർക്കും ഈ പരിശീലനം ലഭിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഈ ബിൽ ഭേദഗതികരിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികളെ യോഗ്യതരവുംമാതൃകാപരവും ആക്കിത്തീർക്കേണ്ട ഭാരം ഞാൻ ഉൾപ്പെട്ട അധികൃതരിലാണു് സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്നതു്. അധികൃതരെക്കൂടെ സഹകരിപ്പിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണമുള്ള ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥയും ഇന്നത്തെ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികളിലില്ല. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ മുനി

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[Mr. N. John Joseph.]

സിപ്പാലിറ്റികൾ അധഃകൃതരുടെകയ്യും അവഗണിച്ചുമാത്രം ഭരണംനടത്തുന്നതു ക്ഷന്തവ്യമല്ല. മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികൾനിമിത്തം ഒരു പ്രയോജനവും അധഃകൃതർക്കുണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല. ഇന്നത്തെ രീതിയിൽ മാത്രമുള്ള മുനിസിപ്പൽറഫ്രാഞ്ചൈസ് മേലാലും തുടരുന്നപക്ഷം അതുകൊണ്ടു ഒരു പ്രയോജനവും അധഃകൃതർക്കുണ്ടാകുന്നതല്ല. അധഃകൃതരെക്രൂടാതെ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികളിൽ വലിയവർക്കും ചെറിയവർക്കും ഒരുപോലെ സുഖപ്രദവും മാതൃകാപരവുമായ ഒരന്തരീക്ഷം സൃഷ്ടിക്കാൻ അവർക്കും കഴിവുണ്ടാകുന്നതല്ല. ഈ ബിൽ അധഃകൃതരുടെ അവശതകളെക്രൂടെ പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനു പര്യാപ്തമായവിധം വേണ്ട ഭേദഗതികളും മറ്റും ചെയ്തു രൂപീകരിക്കണമെന്നു അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ഈ ബില്ലിന്റെ തത്വത്തെ ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery cum Peermade II*): ഈ ബില്ലിന്റെ തത്വത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. ഇതു മദ്രാസ് സിറ്റിമുനിസിപ്പൽ ആക്ടിനെ അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തി എഴുതിയിട്ടുള്ളതാണെന്നു പ്രസ്താവിക്കയുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ ആ ആക്ടിലില്ലാത്ത ഒരു സംഗതിക്രൂടി ഇതിൽ ചേർക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഈ സഭയോടും സിലക്ട് കമ്മിറ്റിയോടും എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്. പ്രായപൂർത്തിവന്ന സകല ആളുകൾക്കും സമ്മതിദാനാവകാശം കൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളുടെയും ഇടയിൽ പ്രചരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരഭിപ്രായമാണ്.

ഇപ്പോഠം ഏതെങ്കിലും തുക കരംകൊടുക്കുന്നവർക്കല്ലാതെ മറ്റാർക്കുംതന്നെ സമ്മതിദാനാവകാശമില്ല. രാജ്യമൊട്ടുക്കു പ്രായപൂർത്തിവന്നിട്ടുള്ള ആളുകൾക്കു സമ്മതിദാനാവകാശം നൽകുന്നതിന്റെ പ്രാരംഭമായി തല്ക്കാലം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയിൽ മാത്രമെങ്കിലും ഇതു നൽകുന്നു പരീക്ഷിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഈ അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുക്രൂടി ഈ ബില്ലിന്റെ തത്വത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു.

MR. M. RAMA VARMA RAJA (*Co-opted*): Sir, I support the general principles of the Bill. We have been crying for a very long time that Government's interference over the Municipalities is too much. So what I want to submit is that the Select Committee should be given full power to recast the Bill if necessary. We do not want here a Bill framed either on the lines of the Madras District Municipalities Act or the Bombay District Municipalities Act. What we want is an Act which will suit the conditions of Travancore. With these few words I support the general principles of the Bill.

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MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): I also support the general principles of the Bill. This Bill proposes to make better the management of the Municipalities of the State except the City of Trivandrum. What I wish to point out in the first place is that the Peishkar interfers over the affairs of the Municipalities, which has just been referred to by my Honourable friend Mr. Elenkath. I douht whether there would be any Municipal Chairman with any self-respect who will be submitting to the situation which is now created by such a provision in the Bill in so far as these powers are given to the Division Peishkars. There is another function also which is touched by it: that is the power of accommodation of the Chairman.

That is a defect and in the present Bill also that is sought to be retained. I trust such defects could be remedied at the Select Committee stage.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I wish to observe that it is now 5 0' clock and we have been sitting through a very long day of very difficult legislative business. All the same, if one or two people more desire to talk, I believe they will be brief in their observations and not take up much time when we will be able to do something more. Not that I want to impose any time-limit, but so far as this measure is concerned, considering the nature of the Bill and the variety of comments I suggested this. Uuder the circumstances, I would request the House to remain for 10 or 15 minutes more, so that we may be done with the business. Those who wish to speak may make brief remarks.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know from the Chair whether any time-limit is to be fixed for speeches in the present Bill?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: No. But I wish you will be brief.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Yes, Sir. I am very glad that a Bill of this kind is now at least introduced. This Bill seeks to be an improvement on the present Regulation V of 1095; and the Preamble also says that it is intended for the better management of municipal affairs.

Sir, while reading the first page in the draft Bill, the impression I had is very sickening. The proviso of sub-clause (2) of clause 1 is the same as the proviso to section 8 of the present Regulation. I strongly object to this proviso being given a place in this Bill for the simple reason that the Government under cover of this proviso, can interfere with the peaceful administration of the Municipal Councils whenever it suits them, no matter howsoever injuriously that interference may affect the municipal interests. Similar provisions naturally occur in draft Bills emanating from Government and for all purposes they may appear to be harmless. In my personal experience, I have found, such provisions are bitter and dangerous to municipal administration in the sense of self-governing institutions.

To show this, I may cite an instance of the Government interference in the case of the Municipality over which I have the privilege to preside. There is a permanent cinema theatre.

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DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Is that your Municipality of Nagercoil which you are adverting to?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Yes.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: But I may tell you, you do not represent the Municipality. Here you represent your taluk.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): There was an application for license to conduct cinema shows. The applicant was required to take licenses under two Regulations, one the Municipal Regulation and the other the Cinema Regulation, the latter of which till then remained unenforced by any of the Municipalities of the State. In other words, no Municipality required such applicants to take license under the Cinema Regulation though the said Regulation was in the statute for some years since 1102.

The said applicant for license will not take both licenses even though the law required it. On being refused, the applicant preferred an appeal before the Government contending that he was not liable to take licenses under both the Regulations. The appeal is not disposed of finally, though over 18 months have elapsed. But in the meantime, the Government upheld the contention of the Municipality that the demand of two licenses was valid in the eye of law and at the same time asked the Municipality to reduce the license of Rs. 50 per mensem under the Municipal Regulation. The Council did not agree to it. The Government so solicitous towards the applicant invited me as Chairman to a conference to sit over the matter of reduction of the above amount.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Are they not details?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): They are the connecting links of the dispute between the applicant and the Municipality.

So then, it is to be noted in this connection that the Trivandrum Municipality also levied at the rate of Rs. 50 for such show. I was not able to understand why the Government treated the Nagercoil Municipality so differently from the Trivandrum City Municipality in the matter of levy of license fee for cinema shows. The conference method also did not avail to procure the reduction from Rs. 50 to five rupees that the Government proposed.

Then the Government under cover of section 8 of Regulation V of 1095, which is akin to this proviso, published a notification in the Gazette saying that the provisions of the said Regulation relating to the issue of cinema licenses were unsuited to the Nagercoil Municipality; as such they exempted it from exercise of those provisions. Well, imagine how this proviso was so utilised by the Government in favour of an individual, at the expense of the Municipality which was thereby deprived of its legitimate income of Rs. 50 per mensem.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You are out of order.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I only point out how far Government are favouring an individual at the expense of the Municipality, taking cover under the proviso in question.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The natural inference then is, there are two parties to the dispute.

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MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : But the Government go out of the way in favouring one particular individual, taking advantage of this proviso.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : It is quite proper for Mr. Sivatanu Pillai to criticise the action of Government in a legitimate way. But instances should not be detailed. Because the other side has no opportunity to make itself heard.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : I am only referring to the side of the Government and the Law Member is here to bear testimony to it.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : In the meantime what was the applicant doing ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : He was merrily running his cinema shows. The Government gave him that privilege over the Municipality.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : Can the member give out the name of the applicant ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : The Proprietor of the Pioneer Picture Palace.

The exercise of powers under the old Regulation, namely, section 138 and section 139 is deprived by this Notification of the Government acting under section 8 proviso. As a result the legitimate income of the Municipality to the extent of Rs. 50 per mensem is gone.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : Why was it not possible for the Municipality to get that income ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Because of Government interference and depriving the Council of its powers to realise the fee.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : Is the Government order binding ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Yes.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Is it a matter *sub-judice* ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : I am not discussing a matter which is *sub-judice*. It is not before a tribunal.

Such a proviso as that of section 8 of Regulation V of 1095 is sought to be put in by Government so that they can interfere with the peaceful carrying on of municipal affairs at any time they choose. Under the circumstances it is a wholly unwarranted and injurious provision introduced in this Bill.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : Did the Government cite the grounds on which they made such an invidious distinction ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Absolutely nothing of the sort was mentioned, except they took liking in doing so.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : The dispute in the Municipality does not come in for a detailed comment. The general principles of the Bill are more important than instances.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Anyway, such a proviso should not find a place as per my bitter experience ; thatis my humble submission.

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[Mr. M. Sivatanu Pillai.]

Sir, if this be the result of the existence of such a clause enabling the interference so unwarrantedly on the part of the Government now presided over by a distinguished person with the hoary experience of over 25 years in the Local Self-Government institutions in British India, I despair of the fate of Municipalities to be governed by law with this proviso under a Government presided over by any other person with no such experience of Municipalities.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Please do not institute comparisons.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): The existence of such injurious provisos give undue advantage to Government, That vitally affects the revenue problem of Municipalites. Hence it is, Sir, I strongly object to the retention of this proviso which may prove rather detrimental or dangerous to the interests of the Council as instanced in the above case.

I find lower down, *i. e.*, coming to clause 2, sub-clause (i), it deals with acts already done by the Municipality under the existing Regulation. It reads thus:

Provided that—

(1) "the said repeal shall not affect the validity or invalidity of anything already done under the repealed enactment"

I fail to understand the significance of the phrase "or invalidity" before "of anything already done.....". It looks apparently innocuous and harmless. But applying the clause as it stands to the Nagercoil Municipality it forebodes incalculable danger to its interests. This is how it affects the Municipality of Nagercoil.

There are now several suits pending in courts against the Municipality preferred by a bus-owner resisting to pay motor vehicles tax levied by the Municipality. His contention is that the levy was not proper and legal. Those suits relate to arrears of tax on that account, for four or five years in the aggregate, amounting to over Rs. 20,000

If this prase be not inserted in the clause, it is apprehended that it may unfavourably affect the recalcitrant tax-payer. If this be retained not only it does not affect his contention in those suits but also he may be free to harass the Municipality by dragging the suits for years and also up to the High Court. The bus-owner is given a *carte blanche* as it were to go on in his way of raising frivolous contentions not to pay the said tax in a manner prejudicial to the municipal interest.

Sir, I see ,the hand of deliberation behind this peculiar phrase "shall not affect the invalidity of anything"; as it were it is perfectly natural to presume that the Regulation contemplates; the doing of invalid acts.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): In the proposed constitution of Councils under the Bill, there is a provision for an increased pro-

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porition of the elected members. There is also a provision for the removal of sex disqualification and a motion for no-confidence is provided for. These are certainly changes for the better and in line with the object of local self-government institutions.

Now coming to the powers given to the Dewan Peishkars—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You have taken very much time.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Sir, I rise to support the general principle of the Bill. I wish to make only one brief observation. May I point out that there is a provision for the removal of a Chairman or a Vice-Chairman on the passing of a non-confidence motion. There is a similar provision in the corresponding British Indian enactment as well. This has given rise to a crop of litigation between the Chairman and the Councillors and has even created communal jealousies. The relations between the Councillors on the one hand and the President on the other have been embittered and the smooth working of Councils has been in jeopardy. So much so, the Government of Madras are now trying to tackle the situation by a suitable amendment of the Act. What I suggest is that we may profit by the experience gained there in working the corresponding provision. I am only throwing out a suggestion to the Select Committee to consider whether the Committee cannot apply its mind to the difficulties encountered in working a corresponding provison in the British Indian Act and find out suitable remedies to erradicate the evils and incorporate them in the enactment. Sir, I support the general principles of the Bill.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I am glad that the Government have decided to change the Municipal Law of the land. But one regrettable feature I see with regard to this Bill is, instead of making an enquiry into the manner in which municipal affairs of the State are administered and making provision for their better administration, the Government have brought forward a Bill based upon the Madras District Municipalities Act. A look into the Administration Reports of Municipal Councils will reveal the fact that the collections in most of the Municipalities are very poor. It is only something like 25 or 30 per cent of the total dues that are actually collected by some of the Municipalities. The reason for that is that the Municipalities are not giving them sufficient return for the amount that people have to pay. As a result of that we find representations are made to Government for abolishing Municipalities, discontinuing Municipalities and against the extensions of municipal areas and the rest of it. From what I know I can safely say that persons living in suburban areas of Municipalities fear inclusion of their areas. They think that it is an additional burden on them without giving adequate return for the taxes imposed on these people.

In this Bill we do not find sufficient provision in addition to those existing at present for making the people believe that the Municipalities are going to be administered in a manner more advantageous to th

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[Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan.]

people. On the other hand we find that there are additional provisions for further taxation. When the Municipalities of today which administer their affairs are unable even to collect their legitimate dues under the present law, I do not know why Government should add to the number of taxes without providing greater amenities to the municipal inhabitants. What I am submitting is, persons living in suburban areas do not want extensions of municipal limits. When the limits of the Neyyattinkara Municipality were proposed to be extended the people raised a hue and cry. Now there is the same cry from the Mavelikara Municipality. I have received several representations on the subject to say that this is a sort of nuisance that is sought to be introduced into their midst. They cannot bear further taxation. The Haripad Municipality was abolished because the people did not want it.

Of course there is provision for increasing the proportion of elected to nominated members.

As far as my information goes I may say that in the majority of cases, excepting the members on the Municipal Council and the employees, the inhabitants of the areas are against the Municipality.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Do you say that elected members are not doing their duty?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I say that Municipal Councils are not doing their duty. I do not wish to separate the elected members from the nominated.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: So that your opinion is that the elected representatives of the people may not be given authority to tax the people?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I have already stated what I had to say on the matter.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: But it was not clear. It is a very important matter. I want just to know whether you are against the representatives of the people being given the power of taxation. I want to know Mr. Asan's view whether he is in favour or not of allowing the elected majority of the representatives of the people to tax them.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I am against the administration of the Municipal Councils as at present constituted. Even from the very beginning of the existence of the Municipalities, as early as 1069, the main functions of the Municipalities were to look after sanitation and lighting. Now we find that the Regulation of 1095 gives so many other functions to the Municipalities though such functions are not discharged by them. I beg to submit that this is a very important piece of legislation and the House must have some more time to consider it.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I may make it very clear that at the fag end of the day we should not trouble the House and any gentleman who

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rose to speak after being present at the time I made it very clear and assented most unambiguously to that very reasonable undertaking. Not that I want to use any powers. But I may say to Mr. Asan that personally I am prepared to sit for any length of time. Mr. Asan may have two or three minutes time more.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): What about those members who were not present here at that time?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I am very glad to give an answer that every member of this House is expected to be present here from 11 A. M., to 5 P. M. except during the interval.

MR. PUTHTPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Owing to reasons unavoidable, these gentlemen were prevented from being present.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: With regard to the exercise of the powers under the law there is no question of assent arising. But at the fag end of the day when a very large number of members are present, discussion has been going on, and the Chair gave the direction that the members will understand the thing in the right spirit; I think Mr. S. Krishna Pillai will not be serving himself by raising that point of order.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): It is clear.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: When once a ruling is given no member has got a right to express an opinion upon it. Will you please withdraw that statement?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Yes, I withdraw.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): So, in view of the fact that I have only very little time, all that I would urge is that in view of these facts all changes that are necessary for the greater advantage of the inhabitants of the Municipalities must be incorporated in the Bill, whether that be against the principles enunciated here or not. The inhabitants of the Municipalities must be given an opportunity or must be examined and their evidence taken before this Bill is brought up for the second reading.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You mean the Select Committee?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): The Select Committee or some members of the Select Committee deputed for the purpose by the Select Committee as sub-committees.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I have heard all the observations made by the various members and I may assure them that every one of them will be considered by the Select Committee. A detailed reply will not serve any purpose and is not necessary because, as I said, all these things must be considered and ought to be considered by the Select Committee.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Does the House agree to the principle of the Bill being confirmed?

The principle of the Bill was accepted by the House.

The Secretary then read the title of the Bill.

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MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I beg to move that the Bill be referred to a Joint Committee of the Assembly and the Council to report within six months.

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): I second it.

The motion was carried.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The House will now adjourn and meet again tomorrow at 11 O'clock.

The Assembly adjourned at 5-20 P. M.

K. MADHAVA KURUP,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

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